GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2891
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008
PREVENTION OF THYROID DISEASE
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 4 crore people are suffering from thyroid disease in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to check the disease?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): It is estimated that about 7.1 crore people are suffering from nutritional Iodine Deficiency Disorders.

(c) : In order to prevent and control the problem of Iodine Deficiency Disorders, the Ministry is implementing the National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP) as a 100% centrally assisted scheme in the entire country. Iodated salt in place of common edible salt is being supplied to all the States/UTs. The Ministry is also providing financial assistance to all the States/UTs for establishment of an IDD Control Cell and an IDD monitoring Laboratory for the effective implementation of the Programme. IEC activities have also been intensified in all the States and UTs through Prasar Bharti, All India Radio, Directorate of Field Publicity and DAVP besides allocation of funds to the State Governments for Health Education at the State level.